

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION Meeting

March 7, 2007 MINUTES

Location: Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Present: Joe DeVito (chair), Donna Gordon, Matt Green, Lisa Langone, Officer Jim O'Loughlin, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Terance Sack,
Students: Brandon Harris, Sarah Laski, Katie Sanders

Regrets: Anthony Bibbo, Richard Dyer, Peter Harrington, Joanne Kazarian, Kipaya Kapiga, Kira Mascho, Stephen Ross, Robert Staulo

Staff: Beverly Droz, Director, Human and Volunteer Services

Guests: Stephanie Fong, Swee Fong, Greg Kelley

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm and guests were welcomed.

Motion to approve minutes of February 7, 2006 was passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance in fiscal year account is \$1,329.23

We'll have approximately another \$700 - 800 in bills from FCD for the seminars, leaving us an approximate balance of \$529-629.

The revolving account balance is now \$ 418.12

Following the deposit noted in Feb. minutes of \$14 from final water bottle sales at city hall.

Freedom from Chemical Dependency:

- Donna reported that at the FCD Seminar at NSHS on 3/5/07 turnout was really good.
- One of the speakers was the same as last year and they prefer to have different speakers so the students aren't hearing the same stories.
- Katie said that the students could relate to the speakers and thought it was worthwhile. For example one speaker talked about her experience hooked on marijuana and alcohol for 13 years and how her life is better now.
- Joe said that this is the 3rd year the Youth Commission has sponsored the seminars.
- Donna said there are kids who use drugs and alcohol and that there is now a college application question "have you ever been suspended?" Then colleges can call the school to ask about it. This is new and the school is investigating whether they have to share the information. The school gives an 8 day suspension for drug and alcohol abuse.
- There was discussion about the issues involved. Officer O'Loughlin said the school administrators have the right to search students because it is school property.
- The next FCD seminar will be at NNHS on Friday, March 16. Glenn Hall is one of the presenters.

Internet Safety:

Joe has spoken with the PTSO reps, including Linda Gordon at Oak Hill Middle School and Mimi Kary at Brown Middle School.

They were interested, especially at the parent level. Joe is connecting with the Attorney General to find out what they offer. Obviously we have local resources such as Chris Fortunato at NCSC and the Police department. Joe will report back.

Annual Award Dinner:

Joe asked for nominations by the April meeting so we can plan accordingly. This will be the 5th annual event.

Other business:

Joe mentioned that by the spring meeting we'll plan the summer sub-committee for the Autumn Invasion event in the fall.

Bev mentioned that NewtonSERVES is April 29th and she'll hand out information at the April meeting.

It was noted that it would be important to have a representative from NNHS. It has been so helpful over the years to have Donna Gordon from NSHS. Bev will email the new principal.

Youth Foundation Subcommittee:

Joe and Matt will get together to plan a meeting to get others involved.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

The next meeting will be on April 4 at 7pm in the City Hall Cafeteria.